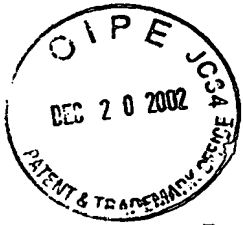


12/26/02
PH
#4



8029-1016

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hiroshi CHISHIMA

Confirmation No. 3187

Serial No. 09/783,324

Group 2161

Filed February 15, 2001

RECEIVED

DEC 26 2002

GROUP 3600

COMMON CARRIER APPARATUS, ACCOUNTING PROCESSING METHOD, AND
RECORDING MEDIUM WITH ACCOUNTING PROCESSING PROGRAM RECORDED
THEREON

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents

DEC 23 2002

Washington, D.C. 20231

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the accompanying documents, copies of which are attached to this statement, are made of record on the enclosed sheet.

A concise explanation of the relevance of these items is that these references were cited by the European Patent Office in the corresponding European Application Serial No. 01 30 1305. A copy of the European Search Report in which they were cited is attached hereto.

Under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a

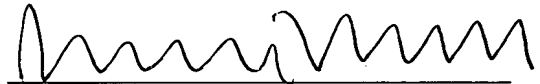
S.N. 09/783,324

counterpart foreign application not more than three months
prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert J. Patch', written over a horizontal line.

Robert J. Patch
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 17,355
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone: 703/521-2297

December 20, 2002